

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

*Please replace paragraph [0053] at Page 21, lines 8-17, with the following:*

[COMPARATIVE EXAMPLE 4]

The same procedures as described in Example 1 were carried out except that 66.6g of L-aspartic acid, 9.1g of ~~L-lysine~~ L-lysine, 133.2g of sulfolane, 46g of xylene, and 26 g of 35% hydrochloric acid were charged. The obtained polymer became gel in the reaction medium and therefore it became heterogeneous in N,N-dimethylformamide. The solution could not be filtrated. Since it did not pass through a filter, weight average molecular could not be determined.